
**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OPEN SESSION – June 8, 2021**

I. Call to Order Open Session

The East Providence School Committee met in Open Session on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at East Providence City Hall Council Chambers. Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Members present were Joel Monteiro, Chair, Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, Max Brandle, Clerk, Jenni Azanero and Charles Tsonos.

II. Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried unanimously to move into Executive Session for the purpose of: Legal Advice regarding Administrators' Contracts; Discussion re: CTC Director Contract Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Technology Automation Specialist Contract Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(1)(1); Discussion re: Personnel Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); and Consider & Vote on Motion to Adjourn and Convene into Public Session. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified in advance in writing and given the opportunity to have the discussion held in public session. No request had been made.

III. Re-Convene in Open Session (Regular Meeting)

Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were observed. The Chair reported that no votes were taken in executive session. Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to seal the minutes.

IV. Student Liaison – Grant Wosencroft highlighted events at the high school via video.

V. Consent Agenda

Communications/Communications

Appointments:

- Robert Hanlon, Principal/Director – CTC, effective date TBD
- Alfred Villeneuve, Technology Automation Specialist – District, effective date TBD
- Richard Small, Phys. Ed. Dept. Head – EPHS, effective 2021-2022 school year
- Matthew Keegan, Library Media Specialist – MMS, effective 2021-2022 school year

Homeschool Requests: There were three requests to homeschool.

Approval of Minutes: May 11, 2021 School Committee Meeting
May 25, 2021 School Committee Meeting
May 10, 2021 Building Committee Meeting

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the consent agenda.

VI. PTO/PTA/EPLAC Reports – Ms. Beauchaine reported that the EPLAC Recognition Night held on June 3 at the Riviera Restaurant was an amazing time. Mr. Ferreira donated funds for that event. Mary Nascimento announced the recognition awards recipients. EPLAC is looking for new members to join. Mr. Monteiro said funds are available to help support their event.

VII. Public Comments I – Agenda Items – There were no comments.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

1. Bullying Report – A bullying report has to be submitted to RIDE every year. No bullying incidents have been filed this year. A formal investigation is conducted when there is a bullying charge. If it stands it is reported to RIDE. The District has a bullying policy.

2. Update on MLL Scores – Yanaiza Gallant
MLL scores have not been released yet. Ms. Gallant will report at next meeting.

3. Hiring of New Staff for High School – The high school will need an English, Math, Portuguese and Social Studies teacher for next year. Mr. Tsonos asked if we will be hiring more custodial staff. No decision has been made yet. Training on various machine systems will begin in July and they will know at that time.

4. Reinstatement of Guidance Counselors at both Middle Schools – The Superintendent would like to reinstate and advertise for two guidance counselors at the middle schools.

IX. Director of Human Services Report

Resignations – Ms. Mammone announced the following resignations: Richard Small, Director of the CTC, effective, 7/1/2021; and Katherine Mello, Paraprofessional at EPHS, effective 6/3/2021.

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the resignations as submitted.

Retirements – Ms. Mammone announced the following retirements: Nancy Sisto, Paraprofessional at EPHS, effective 8/14/2021; and Donna Peluso, Principal at Oldham, effective 7/1/2021.

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to accept the retirements as submitted.

Leave of Absences – None

Non-Renewals – None

Recalls – Ms. Mammone announced the following recalls: Mary Duhancik, Grade 5 Teacher, ELA/SS at Waddington, effective 2021-2022 school year; and Jonathan Monast, Social Studies Teacher at EPHS, effective 2021-2022 school year.

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the recalls as submitted.

X. Director of Finance Report – Mr. Enos highlighted several line items regarding special education services for pre-school. Mr. Enos provided an amended budget for FY 2021 showing the 2021 approved budget, proposed reduction/addition and 2021 amended budget.

XI. Policy Committee Report – Ms. Beauchaine invited Head Nurse Diane Wallace to clarify mask wearing. Last week the CDC changed guidelines on mask wearing in our schools followed by executive orders by the Governor. Students do not have to wear a mask outdoors. Students and staff will continue to wear masks indoors. Hand sanitizer will be used when entering the building by students and staff.

Vaccine Policy – 1st read – Mr. Beauchaine clarified that this policy has nothing to do with a COVID vaccine because it is not mandated. The current vaccine policy was old and new guidelines were incorporated. One line will be added for a second read. The EPSD will follow guidelines from the RIDOH. The committee will be working on an updated residency policy and hope to have it completed by the end of the year. They are also working on a school liaison to the school committee policy.

XII. Building Committee Report – Mr. Monteiro gave a update presentation on the building project. A greenhouse will be constructed this month. A punch list will be started and continued throughout the project. All trades continue on site. As of today 1,000 bricks have been sold. Any money left over will be put back into the project such as lighting on the fields and tennis court and for purchasing audio equipment in the classroom.

Mr. Monteiro announced that APRA requests keep coming to the district asking for a maintenance plan. The School Committee approved and contracted with Peregrine Management Company to develop a job description for a physical plant manager and develop a maintenance plan. When documentation is provided at the end of August/September, it will be handed to the property management company to develop the plan. Mr. Tsonos asked several months ago when the heating system will be tested. The OPM said that the system has been tested right along. Once the building is sealed, they will get a final report. The commissioning agent is contracted throughout the completion of the project. Peregrine Group (OPM) will be

on site even when the district has possession of the building. They will continue to work with the plant manager. Their goal is to have a thorough maintenance plan. They don't anticipate any additional custodial staffing for the building based on square footage.

XIII. Discussion Items

1. Resolution on Support for a Moratorium on the Expansion of Charter Schools – Mr. Monteiro asked for the School Committee to support this moratorium until more regulations and demands on how all students are serviced at charter schools. The resolution is on the agenda for approval.
2. Creation of a Data Clerk Position – Mr. Monteiro had recent discussions at a hearing with changes proposed in the district regarding duties being assigned to other departments. Mr. Monteiro is proposing we create a data clerk position like other districts have. Data across the state shows we could save about \$50-60,000 by creating this position and eliminating the other position.
3. RFP for Shades in Three Elementary Schools – Principals requested new shades at three elementary schools: Kent Heights, Waddington and Hennessey. Other schools already have new shades.

XIV. Action Items

1. Bill List:

Motion by Mr. Tsonos seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the following warrants as submitted.

Voucher No. 1025 - \$224,694.38

Voucher No. 1026 - \$89,904.12

Voucher No. 1028 - \$2,200.70

Voucher No. 1029 - \$72.50

Voucher No. 1030 - \$1,655,801.02

2. Contract Templates for Directors and Administrators

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract templates for directors and administrators as submitted.

3. Salary & Length of Contract for CTC Director

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the salary and length of contract for the CTC Director as submitted. Robert Hanlon will be the new Director of the CTC.

4. Salary & Length of Contract for Technology Automation Specialist

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the salary and length of contract for the Technology Automation Specialist as submitted. The Technology Automation Specialist is Alfred Villeneuve.

Mr. Monteiro reported that the following invoices totaling \$6,759,179.65 have been reviewed and approved by the Building Committee.

5. Ai3 Invoices for Services

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Ai3 May 2021 Invoice for Basic Services in the amount of \$122,474.84 and Extra Services in the amount of \$106,767.50 as submitted.

6. Peregrine Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Peregrine Group, LLC May 2021 Invoice for services in the amount of \$59,000.00 as submitted.

7. Gilbane Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Gilbane Construction Co. May 2021 invoice for services in the amount of \$6,361,308.88 as submitted.

8. Stephen Turner, Inc. Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Stephen Turner, Inc. May 2021 invoice for services in the amount of \$7,913.36 as submitted.

9. Thielsch Engineering Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Thielsch Engineering May 2021 invoice for services in the amount of \$10,220.00 as submitted.

10. National Grid Invoice

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the National Grid May 2021 invoice in the amount of \$90,495.07 as submitted.

11. Resolution on Support for a Moratorium on the Expansion of Charter Schools

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the resolution as submitted.

12. Superintendent's Recommendation to Non-renew Administrator

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by a vote of 4-1 to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to non-renew an Administrator as submitted. Ms. Beauchaine voted nay.

13. RFP for Shades in Three Elementary Schools

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the RFP for shades at Kent Heights, Waddington and Hennessey elementary schools as submitted.

14. Creation of a Data Clerk Position

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the creation of a data clerk position as submitted.

15. Revised FY21 Budget

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the revised FY21 budget as submitted.

16. Piano Removal Invoice

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Andrew Pettet Piano Tuning & Restoration invoice in the amount of \$1,000.00 as submitted. This invoice will be submitted to the building project instead of the district.

XV. Public Comments II – Non-Agenda Items – There were no comments.

XVI. Announcements – Ms. Beauchaine read a letter about Lacy Rego who is a pre-k teacher at Martin. She was nominated for Teacher of the Year at Martin.

Mr. Tsonos thanked Mary Nascimento on the wonderful EPLAC recognition night and for Mr. Ferreira's generous donation to support the kids.

Graduation is Friday night at Pierce Field this year. All are welcome. There will be a parade at 11 am starting at Riverside Middle School on Sunday, May 13th.

Mr. Monteiro thanked all who attended the walkthrough of the old high school which was well attended. He thanked Superintendent Crowley and Mr. Feola for opening the building.

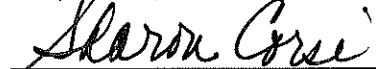
A public tour of the new high school will be done a little differently around October or November.

There will be another School Committee meeting on June 22nd and a shorter July meeting.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Corsi
Administrative Assistant



Max Brandle
School Committee Clerk